COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (LA County CRC)

CRC MINUTES FOR COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST (COI) PUBLIC HEARING: Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 7:00 pm

Live Virtual and In-Person Combination (Hybrid Format)

VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING POSTED AT: CLICK HERE

Agenda

AGENDA ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

Thai V. Le, Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission (LA County CRC) Clerk, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Thai Le reviewed the COVID-19 protocols, based on the West Los Angeles College (WLAC) protocols.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

Governor Newsom signed Executive Order N-29-20, as an emergency measure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This Executive Order allows local and state agencies to hold virtual meetings via teleconference and make meetings accessible electronically despite open meeting requirements in the Bagley-Keene and Brown Acts. The Governor signed this Executive Order in March 2020 and extended it through September 30, 2021.

The LA County CRC held a hybrid meeting format where Commissioners can attend either in person or virtually and count toward the quorum. Thai V. Le took roll call. A quorum was present.

Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura
Yes	In Person	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Mary Kenney	Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	In Person	Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Virtual	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	No	In Person	Co-Chair Carolyn Williams
Yes	Virtual	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	In Person	Commissioner Doreena Wong



The hybrid meeting was held at the San Fernando City Public Library, operated by the County of Los Angeles as a contracted service to the City of San Fernando. It was also held on site of Supervisorial District 3.

AGENDA ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA – CO-CHAIR CAROLYN WILLIAMS

The agenda was accepted with no changes.

Thank You, San Fernando Library, for hosting this hybrid COI Public Hearing

AGENDA ITEM 4: ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS - PUBLIC HEARING - PRESENTATION

Co-Chairs Daniel Mayeda and Carolyn Williams provided an overview presentation on what redistricting is and how the LA County CRC differs from prior approaches.

AGENDA ITEM 5: PUBLIC HEARING FOR COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST (COI) INPUT

A community of interest is a contiguous population that shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest shall not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

Attendees were asked to complete the Community of Interest (COI) Google Forms, in lieu of speaker cards. The written and orally presented testimonies the public provided are summarized as COI input during the public hearing and posted on the LA County CRC for ease of access of the public. Individuals interested in learning about the public comments made can either:

- Refer to the COI Google Form summary (posted on the LA County CRC website for this public hearing)
- Listen to the YOUTUBE recording of the public hearing for the oral comments; these comments will be incorporated into the overall summary across public hearings

Highlights of Speakers Providing Public Testimony

<u>CHIRLA representatives</u>: Their testimonies are attached to the minutes, recorded on YouTube, and posted on the CRC website. Because the two-minute allotment (four-minute allotment if Spanish interpretation required) caused some of them to wrap up their comments, we have attached their comments to these minutes.

Raquel Cetz – See attachment regarding:





- Northridge (North Hills, Reseda, Chatsworth) working class, resided there for years, attended CSUN, issues of childcare
- North Hollywood (118, Laurel Canyon, and Lankershim) Latinx, white, Hawaiian, Black working class; issues of renter relief and affordable housing. 5-6 people reside in small apartments or condos. Low-income community who work as custodians, street vendors, etc.
- Genaro Reyes See attachment regarding:
 - Northridge (North Hills, Pacoima, Van Nuys 118, 101, 405) – home to CSUN campus; very diverse. Rental properties. Working class in construction and food industry. Orange line for transportation.
 - Athens-Westmont (Inglewood, Compton 101, 110, 405) – Metro, dash. Lack of access to medical facilities



- Carolina Moran Canoga Park (located between Lana Park to the north and Canoga High School to the South – 101 and 118 and Topanga Blvd and Sherman Way) – Lack resources. Have knocked on the doors to get out the vote.
- Margarita Montanez San Fernando Valley (Valle de San Fernando Sylmar and Pacoima area 405, 118, 210) have lived there for 50 years. City of San Fernando is residential with small apartments with families and working-class residents. Face issues of homelessness, affordable housing, and environmental justice. Support Tree People.
- Sala Rodriguez San Fernando Valley 118 and 210 and the San Fernando Road) Spanish and English-speaking residents. Working class street vendors. Many people live in one apartment. Health issues. Would like 1 supervisorial district. Not like Malibu or the Westside with more higher education resources.
- Areli Hernandez San Fernando Valley (Balboa, Van Nuys, Laurel Canyon) Have lived in SFV for 2 decades.
 SFV has 1.8 million population diverse, families, and immigrants from all over the world who come together. Have little in common with wealthy communities.
- Rosa Zuniga (her testimony was read aloud) San Fernando Valley (Olive View, Van Nuys, Laurel Canyon 118, 405, 5, 210) have lived there fore 11 years. Hispanic, Chicano, Middle Eastern lower class and middle class. Live in condos. Clean houses, do gardening jobs. Mission College is nearby. Need services catered to lower-class families. Want more libraries.



Cindy Montanez – San Fernando Valley and San Fernando City resident. Glad that the meeting is held in San Fernando City. Important to have 1 SD for SFV with 1.8 million (41% Latino). Will have to add communities to reach 2 million so must find similar communities. The SFV is a significant cultural, economic, and educational engine in Los Angeles. Active in Tree People and equity in tree coverage.

Other public speakers:

- Kim Lamorie, President of the Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation (LVHF), will be submitting a letter from her organization. She advocated for keeping the Las Virgenes Council of Governments (COG) communities together (e.g., Las Virgenes, Malibu, etc.) who have shared interests with the Santa Monica Mountains, environmental stewardship of resources and private lands, etc.
- Stuart Waldman advocated for 1 SD for the SFV. The SFV does not belong with West Hollywood or Malibu. It has a population of 1.8 million of whom are 41% Spanish and may quality as a majority minority district. The boundaries are the mountains to the north, San Gabriel Mountains to the East, and Mulholland to the South.
- Chris Rowe of West Hills has lived there for 42 years; lives near Canoga Park High School. She was working class and worked in the hospitals. Noted that there is no healthcare nearby and stated that serves are needed in the western end of SFV. She defined the western end of the SFV as the Simi Hills.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Topic: Consider Establishment of an Ad Hoc Working Group or Subcommittee to Review Maps Submitted, Organize Them for Commission Consideration, and/or Develop Working Drafts of Maps for Full Commission Debate — Co-Chair Daniel Mayeda

In preparation for reviewing submitted maps, Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D., provided an overview of the mapping software revisions, datasets, and target release date of the official mapping tool with the official California Public Law (PL) Census data adjusted for the incarcerated population. The datasets that are being integrated into the software tool to start are:





- RDUs (90,000 versus 3,000)
- Adjusted population and Voter Age Population (VAP) total and by U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) categories
- Unadjusted CVAP by DOJ categories
- 2020 Registration Total and by surname matched categories
- Socio-Economic Data (ACS)
 - Language spoken at home, just Spanish, Asian Language, and Other
 - Renter/owner occupied
 - Income Categories
 - Education Categories
 - Poverty

She outlined that additional data sets will be available for more sophisticated GIS users or interested parties. She has requested that David Ely, Compass Demographics, and Priti Mathur, ARCBridge, meet with the full Commission at the next special meeting, September 29, 2021, with a suggested earlier start time of 6:30 p.m. so that the public hearing portion of the meeting can still begin at 7:00 p.m.

She then presented her Executive Director Report on this topic; the Revised Executive Director Report is posted on the CRC website for this meeting date.

The Commissioners asked questions of clarification.

Public comment: None

The Commissioners will continue consideration of this topic at the next meeting, including its merits, size (maximum 7 possibly), recordings, and implications in terms of the Bylaws and Brown Act.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT

Co-Chair Mayeda adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

To sign up for receiving future LA County CRC notices, go to: redistricting.lacounty.gov

To submit input to the public hearings, including signing up for speaking before the Commission, go to: https://forms.gle/2SDZSxEuKNZ3ZU1KA



Attachment – CHIRLA COI FORMS

